Executive Committee Minutes  
May 9, 2023  
10 am – 12 pm  
MEDC – Lake Michigan Conference Room – 300 N. Washington Sq. Lansing, MI  
Or Virtually via Zoom

Members Present & Virtual Attendance:  
Beth Ardisana  
Fay Beydoun  
Kyle Caldwell  
Awenate Cobbina  
April Clobes  
Bobby Hopewell  
Gina Jacquat Thorsen  
Tom Lutz  
Mike McLauchlan  
Bob McMahan  
LaJune Montgomery Tabron  
Bill Pink  
Brian Rich  
Tony Tomczak  
Beverly Walker-Griffea

Members Absent:  
Krista Flynn  
Sheldon Neeley  
Phil Shaltz  
Ryan Waddington

Staff Present:  
Amiee Evans  
Steve Bakkal  
Lynne Feldpausch  
Christin Armstrong  
Jen Nelson  
Amy Rencher  
Michelle Grinnell  
Linda Asciutto  
Kelly Watkins  
Lindsay Kirchinger  
Jill Trepkoski  
Michele Wildman  
Brad Heffner  
Michele Wildman  
Quentin Messer  
Tupac Hunter  
Matt McCauley  
Kerry Ebersole Singh  
Lavonne Blonde  
Greg Bird  
Val Hoag

I. Call to order  
Mr. Cobbina called the meeting to order at 10:06 am. He requested that Ms. Armstrong provide any necessary communications, there were none. A roll call was performed to determine attendance. A quorum was declared present. The meeting was held at the Michigan Economic Development Corporation at 300 N. Washington Sq. Lansing, MI

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1 Mr. Tomczak's oath of office was pending filing with the Office of the Great Seal as of May 9, 2023. As such, vote totals for all actions reflect 14 members of the Executive Committee.
48913. Members of the Executive Committee, MEDC staff, and the general public could also participate via Zoom.

II. Public Comment
Mr. Cobbina invited public comment, Mr. Anterjot Singh Bains, who also joined the March 14th meeting, introduced himself and thanked the committee for allowing public guests and for their services on the Executive Committee.

III. Chairman’s Report
Mr. Cobbina asked if there were any questions, changes, or corrections to the March 14, 2023, minutes. There were none. Beth Ardisana moved to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2023 meeting and Fay Beydoun supported the motion. A vote was taken with 14 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Cobbina welcomed and introduce new committee members:
   - Mr. Brian F. Rich, Consumers Energy
   - Mr. Tony Tomczak, DTE Energy
   - Mr. Gina Jacquart Thorsen, Jacquart Fabric Products
   - Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea, Mott Community College

Mr. Cobbina also noted the reappointment of:
   - Dr. Bill Pink, Ferris State University
   - Ms. Beth Ardisana, ASG Renaissance

Mr. Cobbina noted two long-term Executive Committee members had either a term expiration or a retirement. He thanked both Ms. Chris MacInnes and Mr. Dave Meador for their support and contributions over the past several years to the Executive Committee. Mr. Cobbina presented a Tribute to Ms. Chris MacInnes. Mike McLauchlan moved to approve the Tribute and Beth Ardisana supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 14 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Cobbina presented a Tribute to Mr. Dave Meador. Kyle Caldwell moved to approve the Tribute and Bobby Hopewell supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 14 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Cobbina advised with Ms. MacInnes and Mr. Meador’s departure, a new Chair for the Audit & Governance and Compensation & Personnel Subcommittees will be needed. Mr. Cobbina recommended Tom Lutz as Chair of the Audit & Governance Subcommittee. Beth Ardisana moved to approve Tom Lutz as Chair of the Audit & Governance Subcommittee and LaJune Montgomery Tabron supported the motion. A
A roll call vote was taken with 14 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Cobbina recommended Krista Flynn as Chair of the Compensation & Personnel Subcommittee. Dr. Pink moved to approve Krista Flynn as Chair of the Compensation & Personnel Subcommittee and Bobby Hopewell supported the motion.

A roll call vote was taken with 14 aye votes, 0 nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.

April Clobes departs at 10:31 – rejoins at 10:40

IV. CEO Report
Mr. Messer thanked the committee members for their leadership and introduced Mr. Tupac Hunter, MEDC’s, Senior Vice President of External Affairs. He requested MEDC colleagues provide updates on specific topics: Mr. Bird, Legislative update; Ms. Wildman, RAP application; Ms. Rencher, Small Business Services; Mr. Bakkal, Entrepreneurship & Innovation; and Ms. Grinnell, supported by Ms. Ebersole Singh, Talent Campaign Overview. Each provided the requested updates and received feedback and questions from Executive Committee Members.

Bobby Hopewell departs at 11:00

V. Open Discussion
Mr. Cobbina opened the floor for any open discussion. Brian Rich asked how we develop scorecard metrics and what we track relative to what other states are doing. Steve Bakkal provided a brief overview of how we pull our scorecard together. Tony Tomczak wondered how we capture what others are doing and sharing best practices. Mr. Messer advised of our membership with the IEDC and our Site Selector Program. LaJune Montgomery Tabron commented on our excellent programs and resources we offer but wondered if we have done any analysis around packaging our programs for different communities. Mr. Messer indicated that this is a work in progress as MEDC staff will be participating in a Legislative Work Group that will take a look at our programs and how we can be more regionally relevant. Dr. Pink added that we need to continue to educate and re-educate communities on economic development; April Clobes added all communities, not just rural communities.

Dr. Pink departs at 12:13pm

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16pm